

# TRANSACTIONS

OF

## THE LINNEAN SOCIETY.

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I. *A Catalogue of the Norfolk and Suffolk Birds ; with Remarks.*  
*By the Rev. Revett Sheppard, A.M. F.L.S. and the Rev. William Whitear, A.M. F.L.S.*

*Read April 20, 1824, and May 3, 1825.*

THE proximity of the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk to the northern part of the Continent, affords an opportunity to many migrative species of birds to visit these parts of the kingdom, in their passage to and from their breeding haunts. The abundance of food which the sea-coasts, rivers, and marshes supply to the waders and web-footed birds forms an attraction to these tribes. Hence this district is particularly favourable to the pursuits of ornithologists. The following paper has been drawn up with a view to facilitate such pursuits, and to illustrate the history of several species of birds. Its object will be sufficiently answered if this end shall be in any degree accomplished ; and, at the same time, some light thrown upon the wisdom and goodness of the Author of Nature in the works of his creation.

The classification and names adopted are those of the second edition of Temminck's *Manuel d'Ornithologie*, a work which

evinces in its author a more extensive and accurate acquaintance with the birds of Europe, than any other that has been hitherto published.

Genus I. FALCO.

1. *F. Islandicus* (Jerfalcon).

Several years since, a beautiful specimen of the Jerfalcon was shot on Bungay common ; and being only slightly wounded in the pinion, it lived for some time in the possession of John Cooper, Esq. of that place.

2. *F. peregrinus* (Peregrine Falcon).

Mr. Hoy, of Higham in Suffolk, trapped two of these birds, and has seen others at that place. He catches them by fastening baited steel traps, covered with moss, on the top of a high tree, upon which he has observed them to be fond of perching.

The Peregrine Falcon visits the warren at Beechamwell, on the estate of John Motteux, Esq., in autumn, and continues there during the winter. A pair of these birds bred many years successively in the cliffs at Hunstanton in Norfolk, though constantly deprived of their young, which were taken and trained to falconry by Mr. Downes of Gunton ; but during the three last years they have ceased to build there.

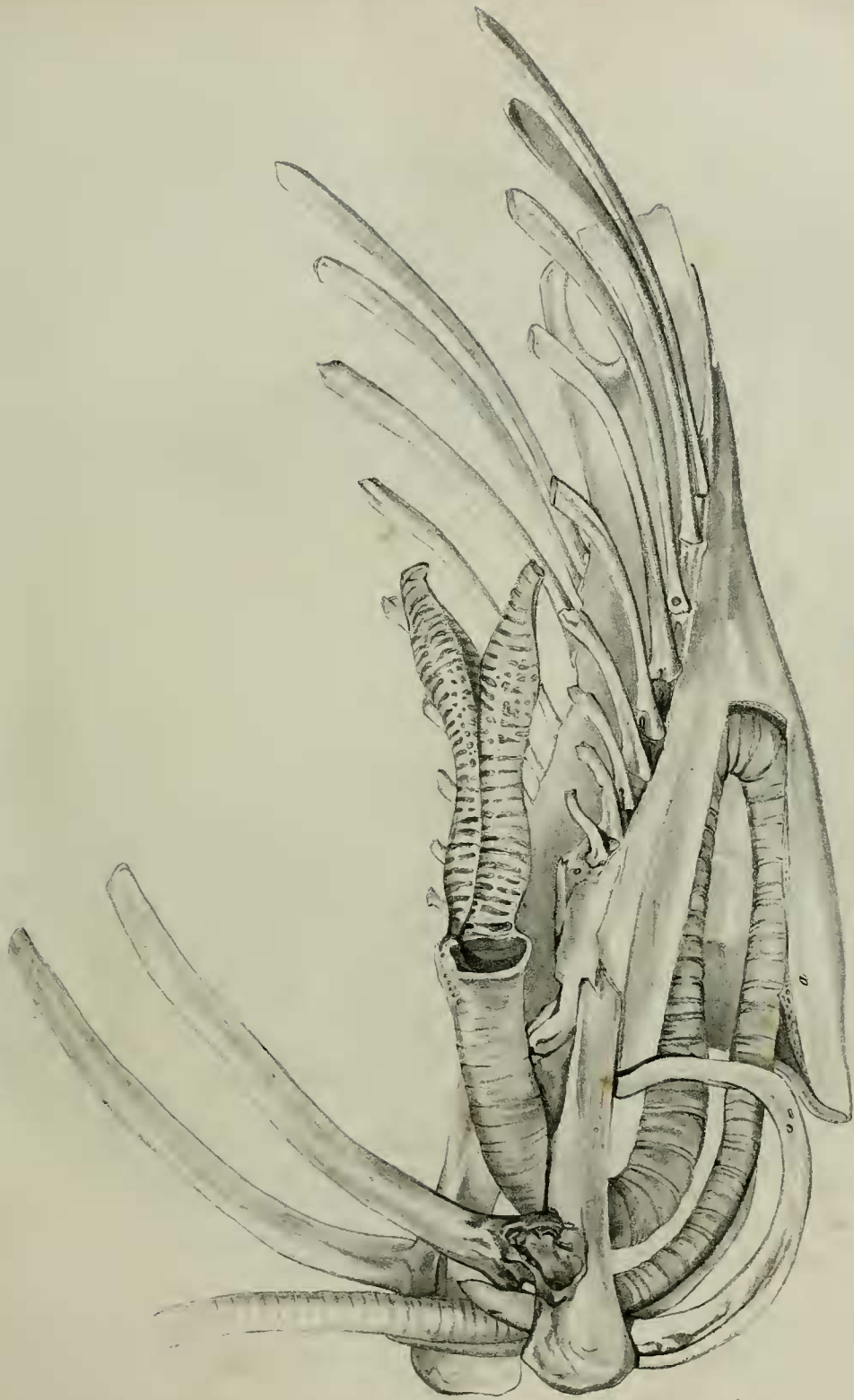
3. *F. Subbuteo* (Hobby).

4. *F. Æsalon* (Merlin).

5. *F. Tinnunculus* (Kestrel, Wind-hover, Hover Hawk).

The stomach of a Kestrel killed late in the year was filled with grubs.

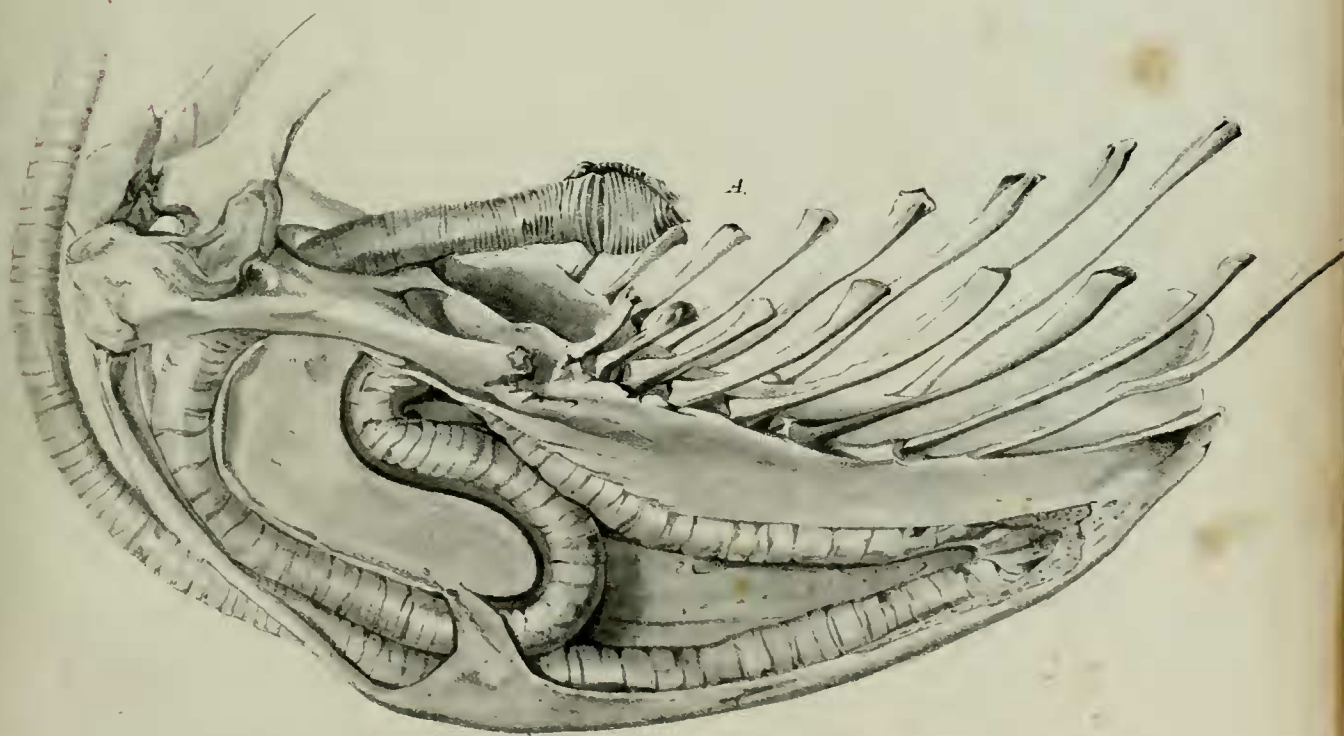
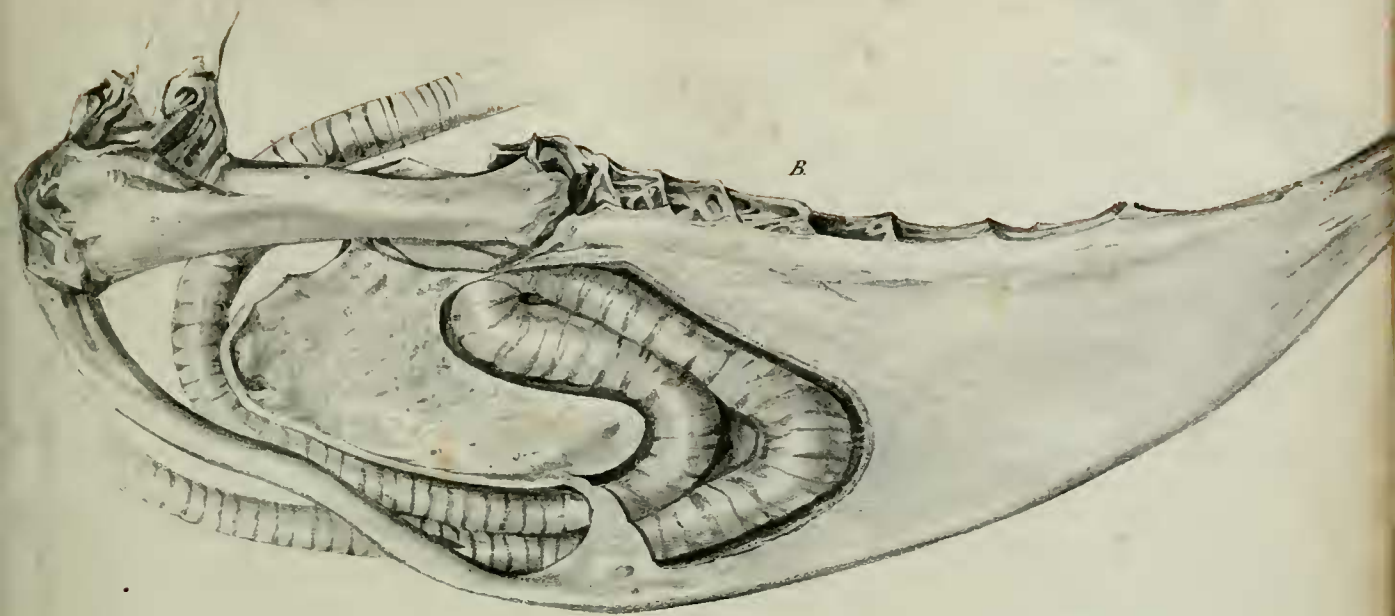
The Rev. Joseph Harrison has employed with success the following method of taking the Kestrel.—A white napkin was spread



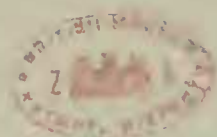
The Trachea and Trachea of the Wild Swan (*Anas Cygnus* Fors. Linn.) one fourth less than the natural size.  
 w) Part of the keel cut away to show the cavity within.







- A. The Sternum and Trachea of the Common Crane (*Ardea Grus*) an old female.  
 B. The same part of a young male. Both represented of the natural size.  
 Part of the keel cut away to show the cavity within.



spread in a meadow, and fastened at the corners with little hooked sticks. On the middle of the napkin a live sparrow was fixed by means of a string three or four inches in length. Slender twigs were stuck up on both sides the cloth, to prevent the Hawk from attacking the sparrow on either side. Two long slender twigs of weeping-willow, well covered with birdlime, were stuck in the ground, one at each end of the napkin, both forming an arch over the bird, but at such a distance that the sparrow could not touch them with its wings whilst fluttering; neither could any Hawk reach the sparrow without coming in contact with the limed twigs. The intention of the white cloth was to attract the attention of the Hawk at a greater distance to the sparrow fluttering upon it. The limed twigs were stuck so slightly in the ground, that if the Hawk, upon finding himself entangled, should struggle, they would have gone off with him and prevented his flight. Mr. H. observes, that twigs covered with birdlime, when long and slender, will stop the flight of the strongest bird, if fixed so as to pass off with him, when touched by his plumage; for they then become like a chain binding the wings to the body. By these twigs he has caught the Cuckoo, Pigeon, &c., and has no doubt but that the Eagle, and every bird of prey, might be taken by them when their nests or haunts are discovered.

The disposition of the Kestrel is bold and familiar. Immediately upon the capture of one by the above method, Mr. Harrison placed him upon a table, and gave him the sparrow which he had killed when taken: he plucked and ate it in his presence, showing no more dread than if he had been brought up tame. After capturing three of these birds, Mr. H. made no further attempts upon them, as he considers them to be of great benefit to the farmer, and doing very little injury to the sportsman.

A Hawk of this kind was observed to dart upon a weasel, and immediately to mount aloft with it in his talons; but had not proceeded far before both fell from a considerable height: the weasel ran off; but the Kestrel, upon examination, was found to have been killed by a bite in the throat.

6. *F. fulvus* (Golden Eagle).

An account of a bird of this species, killed in Suffolk, may be seen in Pennant's *British Zoology*, edit. 1812.

7. *F. Haliaëtus* (Osprey).

The Osprey has been met with in the neighbourhood of rivers and large pieces of water, both in Norfolk and Suffolk. A very fine specimen, which we saw in the possession of Mr. Crickmore of Beccles, had a beautiful bronze gloss upon the upper parts of its plumage.

8. *F. Albicilla* (Sea Eagle).

Some years since a Sea Eagle was met with in the western part of Norfolk, and being only slightly wounded with a gun was with difficulty overpowered. It afterwards lived sixteen years in the possession of the late Henry Styleman, Esq. of Snettisham, at whose house we saw it in full vigour in the year 1818. Another bird of the same species in full plumage, killed in Norfolk a few years ago, was sent to Mr. Hunt of Norwich. In its young state,—the Sea-Eagle of most English authors,—it has been frequently shot both in Norfolk and Suffolk.

A young one, which is kept by the Rev. Joseph Harrison of Great Oakley in Essex, and is very familiar with him, and which he procured when about ten weeks old from Sweden, sounds an alarm upon the approach of any strangers, and will fly violently

to

to attack them if they approach too near: he has, however, a little of the coward about him, as this is generally done when their backs are towards him. We saw his manner of devouring a large puppy. He ate the whole of the head, and then from the neck picked out the remainder of the bones and flesh, dexterously turning the skin inside out as he proceeded. His note at first a good deal resembled that of the Raven; at present it is more like that of the Great black-backed Gull.

9. *F. Nisus* (Sparrow-Hawk).

We have been favoured by Mr. Harrison with the following observations upon this species.—“This bird may be taken in a similar manner to that described for taking the Kestrel,—by limed twigs and a sparrow. His disposition, however, appears much more shy and fearful of the human species than that of the other. I made an experiment to tame one last summer. He was brought to me whilst very young, and every possible care was taken to gain his attachment; but this proved of no avail: he was fierce, savage and fearful, and without any attachment to those who fed him. His wing was cut, to prevent him from preying upon living birds. When oppressed with hunger he would come upon my arm, if I approached him and showed him either bird, mouse, or flesh of any kind, but would not long remain unless he had something given him. He had a stand in the garden, where he was regularly fed whilst young; but when he became capable of flying to a distance, he would not remain there to eat what was placed upon it, unless it was fastened by a string or wire; and even then he would leave it on the appearance of any of the domestics who had been in the habit of feeding him, or of any animal. When I gently approached him myself, at the same time calling to him, he would sometimes remain. His favourite abode was in a meadow near the house,  
perched



perched on a rail by the side of a brook, where he would sit almost from morning to night, calling to me at all times when I made my appearance.

“ I found, after two months' experience, that no discipline or attention could gain his affections. Both this bird and the Kestrel seem fond of washing themselves in hot weather, and of basking and rubbing themselves in dust and ashes.”

10. *F. Milvus* (Kite).

11. *F. Buteo* (Buzzard).

12. *F. lagopus* (Rough-legged Falcon).

We are informed by Mr. Scales of Beechamwell, near Swaffham, that this bird annually visits the warren at that place about the month of November, and continues there for some time in quest of rabbits. A fine bird of this species, which Mr. S. kept alive many months, is now preserved in the British Museum. Not long since, a pair of Rough-legged Falcons were killed at Holkham; and we have heard of one which was shot at Butley in Suffolk.

13. *F. apivorus* (Honey Buzzard).

A dark-coloured specimen of this bird was killed near Yarmouth, and is now in the beautiful and extensive collection of British birds belonging to Joseph Sabine, Esq.

14. *F. rufus* (Moor Buzzard).

These birds breed in some of the marshes of Norfolk. They devour the eggs of wild ducks which frequent the same places, and have been caught in steel traps baited with a duck's egg.

15. *F. cy-*

15. *F. cyaneus* (Henharrier).

This bird breeds in the channel-fen at Barton in Norfolk, where we have more than once thought ourselves in danger of being attacked by it, when we had approached the place where undoubtedly its nest was concealed.

Genus II. STRIX.

1. *S. Nyctea* (Snowy Owl).

A female Snowy Owl was shot at Felbrigg in Norfolk the first week in April 1814, the weight of which was  $5\frac{1}{4}$  pounds ; length 2 feet ; breadth 5 feet 4 inches. This is the first instance we have heard of the Snowy Owl being seen in England. In the month of January 1820 another specimen of the same bird was killed near Gunton, not many miles distant from the spot where the former one was found. The latter bird is now in the possession of Lord Suffield.

2. *S. Aluco* (Brown Owl).

3. *S. flammea* (White Owl).

This bird, as well as others of the genus, is destructive among rabbits, as we have been informed by a relative, who has shot it in the very act of striking them on a warren ; and we have ourselves frequently seen White Owls skimming over the burrows.

4. *S. brachyotos* (Short-eared Owl).

These Owls visit this part of the kingdom in September and October, and remain till the spring. They arrive in flocks of from ten to twenty, and frequent heaths ; in which respect they differ from the Long-eared species, which is fond of the gloom of fir-plantations. Montagu says, that the ears in a dead specimen are not discoverable ; but in one which we have seen, the ears remained



remained distinct from the rest of the plumage after the bird was killed,—dead or alive there was no difference.

### 5. *S. Otus* (Long-eared Owl).

A pair of Long-eared Owls bred a few years since in Staven-der-park near Orford. There were five young ones in the nest, one of which was kept alive for four years. It is said to be common near Beccles, and to breed in that neighbourhood. A female of this species, which we killed on the 13th of March, was not so beautiful as a male killed the beginning of the same month. We have seen seven of these birds together, and on being disturbed they would take their flight high in the air, where they resembled Hawks.

## Genus III. CORVUS.

### 1. *C. Corax* (Raven).

In October 1812 we had an opportunity of observing the great superiority of the Crow over the Raven, although the latter is by much the larger bird. From a tree, whence we had noticed an uncommon chattering and clamour to proceed, three Ravens issued successively, and were instantly attacked and driven off with the greatest impetuosity by a Crow, which had been seated on the same tree with them. The antipathy, indeed, these birds bear to each other is very strong, as we have more than once had an opportunity of noticing. During the breeding-season we have seen a single Rook attack and drive away a Raven which had approached its nest, the Rook uttering at the same time a very angry note. Yet the Raven, when impelled by the force of affection for its young, may be superior to the Rook, as appears by the instance recorded by Mr. Markwick, of a pair of Ravens, which had a nest at Broomham in Sussex, causing the

the Rooks to desert a rookery in the same grove, which they had previously frequented for many years.

2. *C. Corone* (Crow).

We have often been much amused with the sagacious instinct of this bird, and of others of the same genus, in getting at their prey. In the winter season they frequent the sea-shores during the ebb tide in search of muscles and other shell-fish. As soon as the bird has found one, it flies up almost perpendicularly into the air, with the fish in its beak, and lets it fall on the stones in order to break its shell. The bird quickly follows the falling booty, and devours it.

The eggs of the Crow are subject to vary both in shape and colour. Two of them in our possession, taken from the same nest, differ considerably; one being of a pale green with very few small spots, and the other almost entirely covered with large dusky spots.

3. *C. Cornix* (Hooded Crow).

The Hooded Crow made its appearance in this country in the year 1816 as early as October 9th. They are very common in Suffolk on heaths. Sometimes they will approach the habitations of man, and feed upon the carrion preserved for dogs. This species is rather numerous in the neighbourhood of Yarmouth during the winter, feeding among the ooze at low-water; it is also frequently seen on the road between that place and Norwich.

4. *C. frugilegus* (Rook).

The eggs of the Rook are very good to eat, and by some persons have been thought equal to those of the Lapwing. Like those of the Crow, they are sometimes seen of a pale green,

with scarcely any spots upon them. We have seen two instances of a variety of this bird, in which the upper mandible was about an inch longer than the under one. Mr. Harrison has put Rooks' eggs into the nest of a Magpie, and the young Rooks have been reared by that bird. He says, that he has known this plan adopted with success by those who wished to have a rookery. The same gentleman has had Thrushes reared by a Hedge-sparrow, but in that case he usually assisted the old birds in feeding them.

5. *C. Monedula* (Jackdaw, Cadaw).

We have seen a flock of these birds busily employed in picking acorns from an oak. They used formerly to breed in hollow trees in the park at Ash in Suffolk. Their eggs, as well as those of Rooks, are very good to eat.

6. *C. Pica* (Magpie).

The sons of Mr. Lord of Ramsey, Essex, took four young Ravens from a nest, and put them into a waggon in a cart-shed. About the same time they destroyed the young of a Magpie, which had its nest near the cart-shed, and the old Magpies, hearing the young Ravens crying for food, carried them some, and constantly fed them till they were disposed of by the boys.

7. *C. glandarius* (Jay).

Some years since, as two gentlemen were sporting at Tunstal in Suffolk, distant about five miles from the sea, they observed an extraordinary flight of Jays, passing in a single line from seaward towards the interior. This line extended further than the eye could reach, and must have consisted of some thousands. Several of them were killed as they passed. But the firing at them did not occasion the rest to deviate from their line of flight.

This

This circumstance shows that they were then migrating, and it seems highly probable that they came from the Continent.

Genus IV. BOMBYCIVORA.

1. *B. garrula* (Waxen Chatterer).

The Waxen Chatterer, though only an occasional visitant, has not unfrequently made its appearance in these counties, and generally from November to March. Some years since a prodigious flock of them were seen in a grove at Bawdsey in Suffolk, by W. W. Page, Esq., then resident at that place. Mr. Leathes informs us that these birds were in considerable abundance at Herringfleet in the winter of 1810.

Genus V. CORACIAS.

1. *C. garrula* (Roller).

“In the month of May 1811, Sir Thomas Gooch’s keeper shot a female Roller near Benacre in Suffolk, on the same spot where he had killed the male four years since: the ground they frequented was a coarse sort of heath and fen intermixed.”—*Brit. Zool.* edit. 1812. In answer to some queries respecting a Roller killed in Suffolk, Mr. Hunt of Norwich replies, “The specimen of the Roller, which was shot at Bungay September 23, 1817, I suspect was a young male bird, as it differs materially in plumage from a female one now in my possession. This bird is now in the collection of Joseph Sabine, Esq. I am also credibly informed, that another specimen of the same bird was killed in the neighbourhood of Yarmouth about the same time. A few years since a Roller was shot at Bromeswell in Suffolk. And late in the spring of 1818 another was killed in the neighbourhood of Cromer.”

## Genus VI. ORIOLOUS.

1. *O. Galbula* (Golden Oriole).

The late John Sheppard, Esq., of Campsey Ash, shot a female bird of this species at that place. Three others (two males and a female) were killed a few years since at Saxmundham. And we have been informed that a pair of these birds built a nest in the garden of the Rev. Mr. Lucas, of Ormsby in Norfolk. One of those mentioned above was killed in the spring.

## Genus VII. STURNUS.

1. *S. vulgaris* (Starling).

The Starling was formerly seen in Suffolk in much greater flocks than at present, it being now a rare thing to see more than two hundred together; whereas formerly many thousands might be found congregated in the same flock. Very large flocks of Starlings are still sometimes seen in the marshes of Norfolk.

## Genus VIII. PASTOR.

1. *P. roseus* (Rose-coloured Thrush).

This species has been four times noticed in Suffolk in the course of a few years. One was shot upon a cherry-tree at Chelmondiston, and being only winged, was fed with raw meat, and kept alive three months; another was also feeding upon cherries at the time it was killed at Polstead in the summer of 1818; a third was met with at Winston near Debenham; and a fourth, which was a beautiful specimen, was shot at Beccles towards the latter end of the summer. About the same time one was killed in the neighbourhood of Yarmouth.

Genus

Genus IX. LANIUS.

1. *L. Excubitor* (Great Cinereous Shrike).

The migrations of this species are uncertain. It has been killed in Suffolk in the months of January, April, May, and September. And on the 9th of July 1816 we saw a female Cinereous Shrike at Baytham in that county, which made a noise like that of a pair of shears clipping a fence. We are informed by the Rev. George Reading Leathes, that this bird has been frequently seen in the Hyde near Bury (a large wood on the estate of Sir Thomas Gage), and that he has received a specimen shot there. In the autumn of 1819 four of these birds were sent to Mr. Hunt, which had been killed in Norfolk. Early in December 1819 a Cinereous Shrike frequented a thick thorn hedge, near Mr. Hoy's house at Higham, but was so shy that it could not be approached within gun-shot. On examining the hedge Mr. Hoy found three frogs, and as many mice, spitted on the thorns. He therefore set six very small steel traps, each baited with a mouse. On the following day two of the traps were found sprung, and the baits gone. By watching in concealment Mr. H. soon afterwards observed the Shrike to dart down upon a bait, and rise perpendicularly, but not quick enough to escape, as it was caught by two of its toes. The bird was carried alive to the house, and placed in a room in which a thorn bush was fixed, and some mice given to it: one of which it was observed through a hole to spit upon a thorn with the greatest quickness and adroitness.

2. *L. Collurio* (Red-backed Shrike).

A nest of this bird, built at Offton, was composed of dried grass and green moss, with a few small twigs of the *Clematis vitalba*, and lined with fibres. The eggs of the Red-backed Shrike,



Shrike, like those of many other birds, are subject to some variation. The ground of them is sometimes blueish-white, sometimes yellowish-white, and the spots are much larger and more numerous upon some than upon others. The beak of one of these birds which we shot, was coated over with cow-dung, doubtless from its having been searching therein for insects. We once saw a male Red-backed Shrike eager in chase of a Blackbird. We have heard a bird of this kind exactly imitate the cry of a young Owl; but are at a loss to conjecture its object, as it cannot be supposed to have done so with a view of decoying birds of that sort within its reach.

#### Genus X. MUSCICAPA.

##### 1. *M. Grisola* (Spotted Flycatcher, Wall-bird).

The plumage of the young is very different from that of the old birds, being all over spotted.

The form of the Spotted Flycatcher is altogether adapted for activity of wing: its legs are very short; its breast broad: the bird narrows rapidly from breast to tail; and it has great length of wing in proportion to its size.

A Spotted Flycatcher was once observed by us to alight upon a rail with a large white butterfly in its mouth, which it swallowed whole, wings as well as body; whereas a tame Brambling, which has often butterflies given to it, uniformly rejects the wings. Having one evening let fly a large specimen of the *Lucanus Cervus*, it was immediately caught by a Spotted Flycatcher. This bird is known in Norfolk and Suffolk by the name of Wall-bird, from the circumstance of its frequently making its nest in a tree against a wall.

##### 2. *M. albicollis* (Pied Flycatcher).

We have seen a specimen of this bird, which was killed near  
Cromer.



Cromer. Two others were caught by Mr. Downes in his garden at Gunton in Suffolk; and a fourth was shot at Keswick near Norwich.

# Genus XI. TURDUS.

## 1. *T. viscivorus* (Missel Thrush).

The Missel Thrush sings its loud note till the beginning of May, after which time it is not often heard. We have once, and only once, heard it run through a great variety of the most melodious notes, at a time when the male was wooing the female. The young have somewhat the appearance of hawks. The old birds are very fierce, and make a noise like a watchman's rattle. We have witnessed a similar affray between a pair of these birds and some magpies to that mentioned in White's *History of Selborne*. After the loss of their brood, the old birds used from time to time to make a noise like a magpie.

## 2. *T. pilaris* (Fieldfare, Meslin-Bird).

In backward seasons the Fieldfare is late before it leaves this country: it has been killed in the neighbourhood of Cromer the first week in June. The bird had then more dark spots upon the breast and sides than one which was killed in autumn, and the spots upon the first part were of a deeper hue. A specimen shot at this season of the year is in the museum of Joseph Sabine, Esq. On the 5th of May 1812, we saw Fieldfares in prodigious numbers, flying very high and steering due north. They were probably migrating at that time, as none were afterwards seen. We observed a very large flock of these birds on the 3rd of May 1820: they were extremely tame, and suffered us to approach within a few yards. They were observed again on the following day in the morning, but were all gone in the afternoon.

## 3. *T. mu-*

3. *T. musicus* (Song Thrush).
4. *T. iliacus* (Red-wing Thrush, Storm Bird).
5. *T. torquatus* (Ring-Ouzel).

The Ring-Ouzel has been met with in this part of the kingdom at various seasons of the year; but it appears to be most common in October, at which time we have seen twenty of them together. The Rev. G. R. Leathes says, "About the year 1804, a pair of these birds built in a garden at Lowestoffe, and laid eggs." When on the wing, the Ring-Ouzel makes a noise like that caused by the striking of two large stones. Its flight more resembles that of the Fieldfare than that of the Blackbird.

6. *T. Merula* (Blackbird).

#### Genus XII. CINCLUS.

1. *C. aquaticus* (Water Ouzel).

A few of these birds have been killed in this part of the kingdom.

#### Genus XIII. SYLVIA.

1. *S. Locustella* (Grasshopper Warbler).

We have met with this species both in Norfolk and Suffolk. Montagu does not mention, as Bewick has done, the spots upon the throat and neck. Its plumage is very glossy, having a silvery tinge upon it, particularly the under part. It very much resembles a Lark in its general figure, but the hind claw is not long enough for it to rank in that genus.

On the 15th of May 1820, a nest of the Grasshopper Warbler was found among some high grass, in a wood in the parish of Stoke by Nayland, in which were six eggs. The old male bird  
was

was killed upon the nest. The structure of this nest resembled that described by Montagu, but the eggs were different from those found by him. They were white, with numerous small purplish-red spots. The nest was artfully concealed, having the long grass drawn over the top; and a hole was made in the grass, as if cut with a pair of scissors, forming a path for the bird to escape. Two other birds of this species were killed at the same time, and several others were heard. They were observed to frequent that part of the wood where the grass was high and the trees low.

2. *S. Phragmites* (Sedge Warbler, Reed-bird).

The legs and feet of the Sedge Warbler are remarkably large in proportion to the size of the body; the bill is also larger than is usual in birds of this genus. The disproportion of these parts has been noticed by Ray and White, but seems not to have been remarked by other authors. In a specimen which we killed, the legs as far as the toes were covered with an epidermis, which might easily have been pulled off. The under part of the toes is yellow. The base of the hind toe very stout and broad, doubtless to give it a firm grasp, the bird living chiefly in sedges and bushes hanging over the water. The wings are very short, compared with the length of the body. Its shape is altogether well calculated for making its way through the close coverts which it frequents. The Sedge Warbler will sometimes begin its song exactly like that of the Swallow; it will fly into the air singing, and come down with its wings turned up in the manner of the Lesser Field Lark, which may perhaps account for its having been called Willow Lark.

3. *S. arundinacea* (Reed Wren).

The Reed Wren frequents the reeds in the river Gipping, and

we have seen it at Higham: it is also found in other parts of these counties. A bird, which appears to be a variety of this species, was shot about the middle of May by the Rev. James Brown of Norwich, in the marshes below that city. This bird has no *vibrissæ*.

4. *S. Luscinia* (Nightingale).

5. *S. Atricapilla* (Black-cap).

The Black-cap may with propriety be called the English Mocking-bird. We have heard it sing the notes of the Blackbird, Thrush, Nightingale, Redstart, and Sedge Warbler; and besides its own peculiar whistle, which is most delightful, it frequently makes a noise resembling that of a pair of shears used in clipping a fence, which also is the noise made by the young of this species. During the period of incubation the male Black-cap occasionally sits on the eggs in the absence of the female.

6. *S. hortensis* (Greater Pettychaps).

This species of warbler has been found in the neighbourhood of Ipswich, and we have received its eggs from Diss. One which we examined agreed with Montagu's description; to which might be added, that the upper mandible is notched, and the base of the bill beset with *vibrissæ*. It may also be remarked, that when the mandibles are closed, the suture appears of a yellowish hue: the upper parts of the head and the back to the insertion of the tail, have a silvery tint upon them, and in particular lights are damasked, as it were, in longitudinal lines. The under parts of the young are deeply tinged with yellow. In the evening the Greater Pettychaps will sit in the midst of a thick bush, and warble very melodiously for a length of time, in that respect resembling the Nightingale. It will frequently begin  
its

its song exactly like that of a Blackbird, but always ends with its own. Its general habits are similar to those of the Yellow Wren ; for, like that bird, it seems constantly in motion, hopping about from bough to bough in search of insects, and singing at intervals.

7. *S. cinerea* (White-throat, Hay-jack).

8. *S. Curruca* (Lesser White-throat).

We have noticed the Lesser White-throat more than once at Starston, and have also procured its eggs at the same place. It appears to be not uncommon in the neighbourhood of Diss, at which place we have seen several nests belonging to this species. In the month of July 1820, we observed a Lesser White-throat very busy in picking the *Aphis lanigera* from the apple-trees. This bird often utters a remarkably curious and fine-drawn note, scarcely to be heard. It also warbles softly and finely, as Montagu observes ; and before its common note *chu, lu, lu, lu*, it usually begins with a short and gentle warble.

9. *S. Rubecula* (Red-breast).

10. *S. Phanicurus* (Redstart, Firetail).

Perhaps the Redstart sings earlier and later than any other diurnal songster. We have heard it singing after ten o'clock at night, and at three the following morning. A Redstart, which built in our garden in the summer of 1819, adopted part of the song of a Lesser White-throat, which much frequented the same place ; and its imitation was so exact as sometimes to deceive the nicest ear. Almost all the summer warblers are, more or less, mock-birds.

11. *S. Hippolais* (Lesser Pettychaps, White-throat).

12. *S. sibilatrix* (Wood Wren).

13. *S. Trochilus* (Yellow Wren, Oven Bird).

14. *S. Regulus* (Golden-crested Wren).

The nest of this bird is generally built underneath the branch of a tree, and in form similar to that of a Chaffinch. But we have also seen it pendulous, with an aperture on one side; so that Montagu was wrong in contradicting what other authors have said on this subject. There are few birds which do not occasionally vary from the general form in building their nests. There is one peculiarity in the nest of the Golden-crested Wren: the inside of it is not made smooth, like those of the generality of birds, but loose feathers hang into the middle of the nest, so that neither the eggs, nor the young, when small, can be seen. The design of this structure seems to be, to preserve the warmth of its diminutive contents.

15. *S. Troglodytes* (Common Wren; Jenny Wren, Kitty, Titty, and Bobby Wren).

#### Genus XIV. SAXICOLA.

1. *S. Œnanthe* (Wheatear).

The Wheatear breeds in the rabbit-burrows which abound in the sand-hills on the coast of Norfolk. In Suffolk it frequents gravel and sand-pits, heaths, and uncultivated places: it is also found on similar spots in the first-mentioned county.

2. *S. Rubetra* (Whinchat).

3. *S. Rubicola* (Stonechat).

Genus



Genus XV. ACCENTOR.

1. *A. modularis* (Hedge Warbler).

Genus XVI. MOTACILLA.

1. *M. alba* (White Wagtail).
2. *M. Boarurula* (Gray Wagtail).

The Gray Wagtail is by no means uncommon in the autumn and winter season in the low meadows by the river Gipping in Suffolk, and likewise in the neighbourhood of Higham. It is also frequently met with in Norfolk at the same seasons. It runs upon the tops of the weeds, which are partly submerged in the ditches, and probably feeds upon the *Dytisci* and *Gyrini*, which are almost always to be found in those situations.

3. *M. flava* (Yellow Wagtail).

This species is not generally plentiful in Suffolk, though it is pretty common on parts of the river Waveney, which divides that county from Norfolk.

Genus XVII. ANTHUS.

1. *A. pratensis* (Tit Lark).
2. *A. arboreus* (Field Lark).

A common species in the neighbourhood of Harleston during the summer; and it is also found in various parts both of Norfolk and Suffolk. This bird is subject not only to an *Hippobosca*, but likewise to a large species of *Acarus*. Five of these insects were taken off the head of a lark on the first day of its arrival.

Genus



## Genus XVIII. ALAUDA.

1. *A. arvensis* (Skylark).

It appears from the following remarks of Mr. Woolnough of Hollesley, that these birds frequently migrate into this country from the Continent in autumn, and return thither in the spring. Mr. W. thus writes:—"I have frequently seen *larks* and *rooks* come flying off the sea; not in one year only, but in many; not on one day only in the same year, but on several. I have seen them coming off the sea for many hours in the same day;—the *larks* from five and ten to forty or fifty in a flock; the *rooks*, on the same day, in companies from three to fifteen. This I once observed in November for three days in succession; the early part of that month was the general time of their coming: our fields were then covered with the *larks*, to the great destruction of the late-sown wheat. They generally remained with us till the first heavy fall of snow, and then disappeared. Early in the February following they appeared again on the coast in innumerable flocks, but disappeared as soon as the weather became fine, with a light westerly wind: from which circumstance I concluded that they again crossed the sea. They appeared to me to be the same as our common Skylarks.

"Those *larks* and *rooks* that I have seen coming off the sea, did not appear like birds that had flown off for pleasure; they always flew low, close to the water, and seemed fully intent on reaching the shore, on which they often alighted directly on reaching it."

2. *A. arborea* (Woodlark).

The Wood-Lark breeds in this part of the kingdom, but it is a thinly-scattered species.

Genus XIX. PARUS.

1. *P. major* (Great Titmouse).

This species has an astonishing variety of notes. When disturbed on its nest it will make a hissing noise, and boom with its wings like the Blue Titmouse. We have seen such a number of the Great Titmouse in a large plantation of evergreens at Campsey Ash, that the place resounded with the noise of their beaks rapping against the bark of the yew-trees. The large hind toe and crooked claw of this kind, and of others of the genus, are doubtless of service in enabling these birds to hang in a variety of attitudes while searching for their food.

2. *P. ater* (Colemouse).

3. *P. caeruleus* (Blue Titmouse, Betty Tit and Jenny Tit).

In winter the Blue Titmouse frequents the sheds in which turnips are kept, for the sake of feeding on the maggots which are frequently found in that root, and many of which are exposed when the tops of the turnips are cut off previous to their being given to the cattle.

4. *P. palustris* (Marsh Titmouse).

5. *P. caudatus* (Long-tailed Titmouse, Pudding-poke, Capon Long-tail).

In this part of the kingdom the Long-tailed Titmouse is known by the name of Pudding-poke, without doubt from the circumstance of its building its nest in the form of that household article. We have more than once this spring observed an old bird of this species sitting in its nest, with its head partly out of the  
hole

hole in the side of the nest, and its tail turned over its head, and projecting about an inch and a half.

6. *P. biarmicus* (Bearded Titmouse).

#### Genus XX. EMBERIZA.

1. *E. Citrinella* (Yellow Bunting).

2. *E. Miliaria* (Common Bunting, Clod-bird).

3. *E. Schœniclus* (Reed Bunting).

The Reed-Bunting uses the same artifice to attract attention from its nest, as the Partridge does to save its young,—limping along upon the ground, screaming, and shaking its wings.

4. *E. nivalis* (Snow Bunting).

Flocks of Snow Buntings visit the coast of Norfolk every winter; and they are sometimes found in great abundance at Caistor near Yarmouth.—The wings of this species are long and pointed, which give it somewhat the appearance of a Sand-piper in flight. This enlarged power of wing was probably designed to enable the bird to accomplish its migrations to and from the arctic circle.

#### Genus XXI. LOXIA.

1. *L. Curvirostra* (Crossbill).

In the year 1810 Crossbills were numerous at Offton in Suffolk. March 4th, 1815, a small flock of them again made their appearance at the same place, and were very busy in feeding upon the seeds of Scotch, Spruce, and Larch Firs, apparently giving the preference

preference to the latter. A male bird sang a little on their first arrival; and in a few days after he poured out his full note, which was very agreeable, and equal to that of many of our singing birds, though different from the note of any other bird we ever heard. We saw him tread the hen, which convinced us that they would breed there. On the 26th of March they had completed their nest, and we were looking forward with the expectation of seeing the progress of rearing their young, when our hopes were disappointed by a Hawk, which killed both the old birds. A pair of Crossbills were, however, more fortunate at Livermere, having succeeded in rearing their young several times in the garden of Lee Acton, Esq. of that place. They built on a Fir-tree.

Genus XXII. PHYRRHULA.

1. *P. vulgaris* (Bulfinch, Blood-Olph).

Genus XXIII. FRINGILLA.

1. *F. Coccothraustes* (Hawfinch).

The Hawfinch has occasionally been seen both in Norfolk and Suffolk, and for the most part during the winter season.

2. *F. Chloris* (Green Grosbeak).

3. *F. domestica* (House-Sparrow).

The growth of the feathers of the young of this bird is very rapid in hot weather. On the 9th of August we took a young Sparrow from a nest; there was neither down nor feathers upon it, but the rudiments of the feathers were visible under the skin upon the back of the head and along the back: on the sides of the wings the shafts of the quills had just pierced the

skin. Eight days afterwards we took another young one from the same nest. This bird was covered with feathers, and was able to make some use of its wings. The parent birds had adapted the food which they brought to their young to their powers of digestion. The stomach of the first of the above Sparrows was weak, and filled almost entirely with insects; only one grain of wheat and a few grains of sand were found in it. In the second the gizzard was become vastly more muscular, and contained nine grains of wheat nearly whole, besides some pieces, the remains of several small beetles, and some pretty large gravel-stones.

4. *F. montana* (Tree-Sparrow).

We have received a specimen of the Tree-Sparrow from the Rev. H. Tilney of Hockwold, at which place it breeds. Mr. Scales pointed out to us this species at Beechamwell, and favoured us with its eggs. We have also seen it at Freston in Suffolk.

5. *F. cælebs* (Chaffinch, Spink).

6. *F. Montifringilla* (Brambling).

This winter bird of passage sometimes makes its appearance in very large flocks. At Beechamwell, Mr. Scales considered them of service to his land, from their devouring in great abundance the seeds of the Knot-grass (*Polygonum aviculare*). In the severe winter of 1819-20 large flocks of these birds were observed at Stratton Strawless feeding on the Beech-mast. Bramblings have been observed in the spring as late as the 27th of April. A male and female, which were only winged, we kept for some time in a cage, and fed with canary and hemp seed, of which the former agrees with them best. The male was the larger  
of

of the two : he would frequently erect his crest, and both of them would snap their beaks at each other by way of menace. He had no regular song, but uttered notes resembling those of the Greater Redpole and Green Grosbeak, and also the gentle complacent note occasionally uttered by the female Chaffinch.—Latham says the legs are gray, and Bewick describes them as pale-brown. The hind part of the legs and the bottoms of the feet of a specimen which we examined, were of a bright yellow. In a female killed late in April, the remark of Linnæus, *alarum basi subtus flavissima*, was very striking.

7. *F. cannabina* (Common Linnet).

8. *F. montium* (Twite, French Linnet).

This is a winter bird of passage. We have found them plentiful in the month of October on Pewit Island, and on the main land of Essex near it, in flocks of ten and twenty together ; and towards evening we noticed a flock of about a hundred : so that it seems not improbable that the flocks may collect together to pass the night. No other birds were mixed with these flocks, which were feeding on the seeds of the Marsh Samphire (*Salicornia herbacea*), and Sea Starwort (*Aster tripolium*). Their little twittering note, as they sit or fly, might easily be mistaken for that of the Siskin ; but their *ay, ay, ay, twite, twite, twite*, (whence certainly their name,) at once distinguishes them. Twites are found in the salt-marshes near Yarmouth ; and we have seen a flock of them at Shotley Point in Suffolk. A Twite was killed on the 23rd of May ; so that a few may perhaps breed in this country. Mr. Scales informs us that this species of Finch visits Beechamwell very early in the spring, and feeds upon the seeds of the Alder as they drop from the cones.

At half-past five o'clock in the morning of March 20th, 1820,



a very extraordinary migration of small birds was witnessed at Little Oakley in Essex. The attention of the observer was arrested by an uncommon chattering of birds, and looking up he beheld an incredible number of small birds flying a-breast, in a line extending as far as the eye could distinguish them, and three or four yards deep. Their direction was towards the south-east, the wind favouring them; their height only a few yards from the ground. The flock was supposed to consist principally of Chaffinches, Linnets, Twites, and Bramblings. None of the two latter species were seen in the neighbourhood after that time; and there is on those shores in the winter season an immense quantity of Linnets, more than can be bred in the neighbourhood.

9. *F. Spinus* (Siskin).

Small flocks of Siskins are occasionally seen in Norfolk and Suffolk during the winter season, particularly in severe weather. A flock of them was observed at Sturston as late as the 4th of March, 1820. They kept up a constant twittering as they flew briskly from tree to tree, apparently for the purpose of keeping the flock together. The twittering of this bird very much resembles that of the Lesser Redpole.

10. *F. Linaria* (Lesser Redpole).

11. *F. Carduelis* (Goldfinch).

Genus XXIV. CUCULUS.

1. *C. canorus* (Cuckoo).

The opinion still prevails among the vulgar in Suffolk, that Cuckoos are transformed into Hawks in winter.—On July 31st, 1816,



1816, we observed a pair of Red-backed Shrikes very busy in feeding a young Cuckoo which was perched on an oak. This fact confirms Temminck's remark, who says that the Cuckoo will sometimes lay its egg in the nest of the above-mentioned Shrike. It also contradicts Montagu, who asserts that "the Yellow-hammer's egg is larger than that of any other bird in whose nest the Cuckoo chooses to lay:" for the egg of the Red-backed Shrike is larger than that of the Yellow-hammer. We have heard the note of the old Cuckoo as late as the last day in July. The note of the female Cuckoo resembles that of the Common Gallinule. A Cuckoo has been observed to enter the nest of a Magpie, probably for the purpose of devouring the eggs, which, according to Temminck, constitute part of its food.

#### Genus XXV. PICUS.

1. *P. viridis* (Green Woodpecker).

2. *P. major* (Greater Spotted Woodpecker).

An old male bird of this species was brought to us, which was shot whilst flying about and making a most vociferous noise, as a boy was robbing its nest from a hole in a tree. The young, three in number, were completely fledged; and what is singular, one of them weighed more than the old bird. Their plumage exactly corresponded with that attributed to the *Picus medius* of English authors. This instance, therefore, is a corroboration of that mentioned by Montagu in proof that these two birds are the young and old of the same species. We have killed the young of this species in the act of making a jarring noise, and are unable to reconcile this fact with the assertion of Montagu, that the jarring noise is the call of love. But every difficulty upon the subject vanishes if the statement of Wilson be correct, who  
asserts

asserts that the jarring noise made by Woodpeckers is designed to drive insects from their lurking-places.

3. *P. minor* (Lesser Spotted Woodpecker).

This species is pretty common at Campsey Ash in Suffolk ; and it also breeds in Helmingham Park in the same county. Mr. Hunt has frequently observed it in his garden at Norwich.

Genus XXVI. YUNX.

1. *Y. Torquilla* (Wryneck).

In general Bewick's figures are remarkable for their accuracy ; but that which he has given of the Wryneck is faulty : the beak is too long, the head too small ; and, indeed, the whole figure represents the bird smaller than it really is. He has also made the legs too slender, for it has exceedingly stout ones. The Wryneck in fact is, as White observes, a very robust bird.

Genus XXVII. SITTA.

1. *S. europæa* (Nuthatch).

The Nuthatch is met with in great numbers at Campsey Ash. The great length of its hind toe, in addition to its use in assisting it to run up and down the trunks of trees, probably assists it in grasping and carrying away nuts. It generally breeds in the holes of trees made by the *Picus viridis*, which, being too large, it walls up with mortar to a proper size. It lays five, and often six eggs, and is so tenacious of its nest that the bird will retain its possession until the last.

Genus XXVIII. CERTHIA.

1. *C. familiaris* (Common Creeper).

Genus

Genus XXIX. U<sub>PUPA</sub>.

1. *U. Epops* (Hoopoe).

Several instances have occurred of the Hoopoe having been met with both in Norfolk and Suffolk, particularly in the latter county.

Genus XXX. M<sub>EROPS</sub>.

1. *M. Apiaster* (Bee-eater).

A Bee-eater, killed on a white-thorn at Blyburgh in the month of May, is now in the possession of Mr. Whittingham of Yoxford. Another, shot near Yarmouth, is in the collection of Mr. Seaman of Ipswich. This is a smaller bird than the former. In the third volume of the *Linnean Transactions* mention is also made of a bird of this species having been killed in Norfolk.

Genus XXXI. A<sub>LCEDO</sub>.

1. *A. Ispida* (Kingfisher).

The Kingfisher appears to vary much in size: we have seen large ones in Suffolk and in Essex, whereas all those we have met with in Nottinghamshire have been smaller. This bird seems to be subject to a partial migration, as it comes up the river Gipping in Suffolk every autumn. In the autumn of 1818 Kingfishers abounded along the shores and creeks of the Stour, though not one was to be seen in the summer. At the latter end of the last year none were to be found in the same places. Some were destroyed by the severity of the preceding winter, and were picked up dead; and it is probable that others might have perished by the rising of the waters from the heavy rains which fell during the breeding season. Temminck asserts that this bird, besides fish, will eat aquatic insects, worms, leeches, and snails. A young one which Montagu had would eat nothing  
but

but fish, and died in a few weeks for want of proper food. The Kingfisher will sometimes lay its eggs on the bare earth, at the end of a hole, without making any nest. In Suffolk the nests of this bird have been found in holes in gravel-pits, at the distance of a mile from any large pond or river. The eggs are white and round.

## Genus XXXII. HIRUNDO.

### 1. *H. rustica* (Swallow).

At the time when Swallows are congregated in the autumn for the purpose of migrating, a part of them have been observed to ascend in the air in a spiral direction beyond the reach of human vision, and after continuing out of sight a short time, to descend again. Sometimes they would continue to do this at intervals for two or three days together, and then all would disappear. Query: Do they ascend in this manner to ascertain whether there is an upper current of air favourable to their migration? and do they prefer migrating high in the air, in order to have a greater scope of vision?

A young Swallow, which was kept alive by a lady, was observed to become uneasy as the time of migrating approached; and when its cage was hung in the air, the wild Swallows came about it, and appeared to invite it to go with them. After they had all disappeared it became tolerably easy.

The following extraordinary circumstance in the natural history of the Swallow, which occurred at Christ Church, Ipswich (the residence of the Rev. Mr. Fonnereau), very forcibly illustrates the unusual coldness and backwardness of the season:—“On the mornings of the 5th and 6th of June 1816, the gardeners could have taken up hundreds of these birds in their hands: they were collected in knots, and sat on the grass in parcels of thirty and forty. This, there is reason to believe, was owing

owing both to cold and hunger."—*Suffolk Chronicle*, June 15, 1816. The same summer many House Martins were found dead on the ground in Norfolk, and others were so weak that the cats sprang upon them and caught them as they flew near the ground. A pair of these birds, which had completed a nest under the eaves of our house, were both found dead in it before any eggs were laid. From the above circumstances birds of this kind were unusually scarce throughout the summer.

2. *H. urbica* (Martin).

Some young Martins did not leave their nest at Starston till the 7th of October, 1819; and on the 11th of the same month all the Martins had left that part of the country.

Genus XXXIII. CYPSELUS.

1. *C. murarius* (Swift, Deviling).

Genus XXXIV. CAPRIMULGUS.

1. *C. europæus* (Goatsucker).

We have twice seen a Goatsucker hawking about in search of food in the middle of the day; and upon one of these occasions the sun was shining very bright.

Genus XXXV. COLUMBA.

1. *C. Palumbus* (Ring-Dove, Dow).

2. *C. Œnas* (Stock-Dove).

We are informed by Mr. Scales of Beechamwell that the Stock-Dove breeds upon his warren in old rabbit-burrows. He describes the eggs as being much rounder, and less than those

of the Ring-Dove. When the warreners find the young in a burrow, they fix sticks at the mouth of the hole in such a manner as to prevent the escape of the young, but to allow the old birds to feed them; and when they are in good condition they are taken for the table. This bird is now rarely seen in Suffolk; formerly it used to visit that county in prodigious flocks during the winter season, feeding on the Buck-wheat stubbles. Mr. Leathes says that it breeds in old trees near the decoy at Herringfleet. It lays two eggs, which are nearly oval.

3. *C. Turtur* (Turtle-Dove).

Genus XXXVI. PHASIANUS.

1. *P. Colchicus* (Pheasant).

At Campsey Ash, where the Pheasants are well fed with potatoes, buck-wheat, and barley, a cock Pheasant has been killed which weighed four pounds and a half.

Genus XXXVII. PERDIX.

1. *P. rubra* (Guernsey Partridge).

These birds are now very plentiful in some parts of Suffolk. We have seen at least 150 brace in a morning upon Dunmington-heath; and they are found in greater or less numbers from Aldborough to Woodbridge. A few are also sometimes seen in Norfolk. And in moving a straw-stack in the neighbourhood of Harleston last summer, a nest of the Red-legged Partridge was found upon the top of it, in which were six eggs.

The sportsman finds birds of this kind more difficult to get at than the Common Partridge, as they run very much before the dogs.

2. *P. ci-*



2. *P. cinerea* (Partridge).

The Partridges at Blakenham in Suffolk, where the soil is chalky, are said to be of a lighter colour than they usually are seen upon other soils. We know not whether the same remark has been made upon those which inhabit the other chalky districts of the kingdom. Temminck, in his *Natural History of Pigeons and Gallinaceous Birds*, observes, that the Common Partridge, as well as other birds, is subject to vary both in size and colour from local causes, particularly from the abundance or want of food. We have seen a brace of White Partridges, which were killed last year at Kittleburg in Suffolk: through the white, the markings of the feathers, on close inspection, faintly appear.

The bills of young Partridges are dusky at the base, with horn-coloured tips. Those of the old ones are of a pale lead colour. The legs of the young birds have a yellow tinge, which in the old ones is changed to a blueish tint.

3. *P. Coturnix* (Quail).

This species used formerly to be very common in the neighbourhood of Diss. It is now become scarce, but still occasionally breeds in that part of the country: and not long since two Quails' nests were found by some workmen mowing clover. In one of them there were seventeen eggs; in the other, twelve. We have also received its eggs from the neighbourhood of Hunstanton in Norfolk. These birds are also become scarce in those parts of Suffolk where they formerly abounded.

Genus XXXVIII. OTIS.

1. *O. Tarda* (Great Bustard).

These noble birds still continue to breed in the open parts both of Norfolk and Suffolk, though they are become much

scarcer than formerly. The places most frequented by them are, Westacre in the former county, and Icklingham in the latter. At both places they are carefully preserved by the proprietors. In the summer of 1819, nineteen of them were observed together at Westacre. We have twice seen a male Bustard in the neighbourhood of Burnham. It suffered itself to be approached to about the distance of a hundred yards, then walked deliberately a few paces, and took wing without the least difficulty. In flying it moved its wings slowly, more like a Heron than one of the gallinaceous tribe. Mr. Hardy of Norwich has more than once succeeded in domesticating this species.

## 2. *O. Tetrax* (Little Bustard).

We have been informed by John Cooper, Esq. of Bungay, that a female Little Bustard was killed near that town in November 1804. A bird of the same species was also shot on the bank of the Ipswich river, near the seat of Sir Robert Harland, in whose possession it now is.

## Genus XXXIX. *ŒDICNEMUS*.

### 1. *O. crepitans* (Thick-kneed Bustard).

## Genus XL. *CALIDRIS*.

### 1. *C. arenaria* (Sanderling).

The Sanderling visits the eastern coast of England in the spring, and remains till the autumn. Its toes are fringed with a widely serrated membrane, which is probably of service in giving it support upon soft ground. The flight of this bird is very placid, and without noise.

Genus

Genus XLI. HÆMATOPUS.

1. *H. Ostralegus* (Oyster-catcher).

The northern shore of Norfolk is a favourite breeding-place of this species. The Oyster-catcher is an expert diver ; one which had its wing broken was with difficulty caught by a good water dog.

Genus XLII. CHARADRIUS.

1. *C. Pluvialis* (Golden Plover).

Golden Plovers make their appearance in this part of the kingdom in the spring, on their passage to the North, and again on their return towards the end of the year, at which season they are sometimes seen in large flocks ; and they have been killed as late as the end of December. It is probable that they may occasionally breed in Norfolk, as a few of these birds were seen last year during the breeding season on Mousehold-heath near Norwich.

2. *C. morinellus* (Dottrel).

Both in spring and autumn the Dottrel has been met with in Norfolk. A considerable number of them were seen in May 1816 in the parts westward of Burnham. We have also noticed them on Martlesham-heath, Suffolk.

3. *C. Hiaticula* (Ringed Plover).

Mr. Scales informs us that the Ringed Plover breeds on the warren at Beechamwell : this place is many miles distant from the sea. And in Mr. Sabine's museum there are specimens of this species of Plover which were killed at Elston near Thetford.

## Genus XLIII. VANELLUS.

1. *V. Melanogaster* (Swiss Sandpiper).

This beautiful bird has been met with several times in the spring of the year at Yarmouth, probably on its passage to its breeding haunts. It has also been killed at the same place late in autumn, at which time it has acquired the plumage usually attributed to the Gray Sandpiper; and it is by no means uncommon on the Essex coast throughout the winter. As the plumage upon the upper parts of this bird in autumn is interspersed with yellow spots, it assumes at that season a resemblance to a Golden Plover. And there can be little doubt that it was a Swiss Sandpiper in its autumn dress to which Mr. Markwick alludes, when he says, "I once saw a Golden Plover which had a small back toe."—*Linn. Trans.* vol. iv. pp. 25, 26.

The flight of the Swiss Sandpiper is smooth, gentle, and without noise, much like that of the Sanderling; and it carries its wings arched in flight, in the manner of that bird.

2. *V. cristatus* (Lapwing, Flap-Jack, Horn-Pie).

## Genus XLIV. STREPSILAS.

1. *S. collaris* (Turnstone).

These birds are found sparingly on the sea-coast. We noticed five of them passing from the Mussel Islands to the main-land of Essex: they flew in a line one after the other, and so low as almost to touch the water.

## Genus XLV. CICONIA.

1. *C. alba* (White Stork).

A few years since a pair of White Storks were seen at Gorleston, and one of them was killed. Another pair was observed at  
Aclea

Aclea in the month of June 1817. And about the same time a female of this species was killed near Burgh Castle, and another in the month of November following.

Last year two young Storks were taken from a nest in Holland, and given to Mr. Harrison. They have borne the winter, though not without much shivering on the coldest days, on which they were always observed to be more than usually voracious. Each of them has swallowed two rats which were more than half-grown; and whilst the tail of the second was hanging out of the bill a third has more than once been attempted. On these cold days, when Mr. H. has been cutting horse-flesh for them, so voracious have they been that he was fearful of cutting the ends of their bills as they darted at their food. They rest much on one leg; and are fond of wading into a pond, from which they procure some kind of food, though there are no fish therein.

#### Genus XLVI. ARDEA.

##### 1. *A. cinerea* (Common Heron).

We once watched the motions of a Heron which was standing by the side of a river, where the bank was rather steep: in darting at a fish he precipitated himself into the water, but was out again in an instant with his prey. When a Heron has caught a large eel, it carries it upon firm land, and dashes it repeatedly with violence against the ground, till the fish is so weakened that it can be swallowed with ease. The edges of both the mandibles of this bird are sharp, which structure enables it more securely to hold its slippery prey.

We remarked in a paper already laid before the Society, that the feathers of this species are frequently loaded with a blue powder. We have since noticed an abundance of white dust upon the feathers of the breast and belly of a White Owl killed  
in

in August. Bruce, upon lifting the Bearded Eagle which he shot in Abyssinia, found himself covered with a yellowish dust; the plumage of the bird being tawny. The flesh of the Heron is much admired by some persons. The legs have sometimes a rank fishy taste, though the other parts of the bird are well-flavoured.

2. *A. Egretta* (Great White Heron).

On the 3rd of October last, in a walk on the banks of the river Stour, we observed a large White Heron cross over from the Suffolk to the Essex side of the river. It appeared to be pure white, and to stand up rather taller than some Common Herons which were feeding not far off. A similar bird was observed in the spring on the Oakley shores; and, subsequently to our observation, one was seen on the banks of the river Orwell.

3. *A. Nycticora* (Night Heron).

Mr. Stag of Yarmouth shot a Night Heron upon a tree in his nursery. And we are informed by Mr. Hunt, that the specimen of this bird in his possession was shot in Suffolk, and kept alive some time, being only slightly wounded. Another bird of the same species was killed at Mr. Coke's in the winter of 1819, and is now in the possession of the Rev. George Glover.

4. *A. stellaris* (Bittern).

Some of the marshes of Norfolk afford a breeding-place to the Bittern, whence we have received its egg, both ends of which are nearly of the same shape. Pennant has justly remarked that this bird has a double iris. In one which we examined, that next the pupil was reddish-yellow, the outer one hazel. There was also a notch at the extremity of the upper mandible;



mandible ; and both mandibles, nearly half-way along the edges (reckoning from their tips), are furnished with a beautiful and regular serrature, the points of which stand inward, and are so fine as almost to require a magnifying-glass to distinguish them. This structure must be of great service to the bird in securing its prey.

5. *A. ralloides* (Squacco Heron).

An account has already been laid before the Society by Mr. Youell of a beautiful specimen of this rare bird which was taken at Ormesby.

6. *A. minuta* (Little Bittern).

We are assured by Mr. Hunt that a Little Bittern was killed at Burlingham in the winter of 1819.

Genus XLVII. RECURVIROSTRA.

1. *R. Avocetta* (Avoset, Shoeing-horn).

During the breeding season the Avoset used to frequent the marshes at Winterton ; and in the summer of 1816 we saw one there which had young. This bird made several circles round us, uttering a shrill note, and then alighted in the middle of a pool of water, on which it floated ; then took several turns on wing, and again alighted on the water, where it sat motionless. The bill of the Avoset is so flexible that it is totally unfit for a weapon of offence, and the bird itself has a peculiarly harmless and meek appearance.

Genus XLVIII. PLATALEA.

1. *P. Leucorodia* (Spoonbill).

This species is occasionally met with near Yarmouth, and  
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generally during the winter season. It has also been shot on the river Stour, which divides the counties of Essex and Suffolk. A pair of Spoonbills were seen at Cromer in June 1818; and one was killed at Yarmouth in the month of May of the same year. In the stomach of this last bird there was an abundance of the shells of shrimps.

#### Genus XLIX. IBIS.

##### 1. *I. Falcinellus* (Glossy Ibis).

We have seen a bird of this species which was shot in the winter of 1818 in the marshes on the western coast of Norfolk, near Lynn. It did not appear to have attained its full plumage, from the circumstance of its having four transverse bars of white on its throat. In the month of May 1822, three birds of this species were seen at Hockwold in Norfolk. Two of them were killed, and are in the possession of the Rev. Henry Tilney of that place.

#### Genus L. NUMENIUS.

##### 1. *N. Arquata* (Curlew).

Curlews may be met with at all times of the year between Ipswich and Harwich; but their nests have hitherto not been found in those parts. The common note of this species is *hoë*, *hoë*, *hoë*. It has another note, which may be sounded *korlew*, whence its name.

##### 2. *N. Phæopus* (Whimbrel, Half-Curlew).

These birds arrive upon the coasts of Essex and Suffolk early in May, and migrate again in the latter part of the autumn. The note of the Whimbrel may be thus expressed, *weddy*, *tetty*, *tetty*, *tetty*, *tet*, quickly repeated.

Genus

Genus LI. TRINGA.

1. *T. subarquata* (Pigmy Curlew).

Several of these birds have been killed at Yarmouth in the autumn. One of them, which was shot at that place in the month of August, had a red breast, and was in plumage similar to the one in a summer dress preserved in the British Museum. We have met with this species on Pewit Island. It is more solitary than the Dunlin, not more than a pair being seen together; and is a stupid bird, suffering a boat to approach close to it. The legs of this bird when fresh killed are of a pale-green, but when dried they appear black.

2. *T. variabilis* (Dunlin, Sea-Snipe, Stint).

Very large flocks of Dunlins are sometimes seen on the eastern coast of the kingdom.

3. *T. maritima* (Purple Sandpiper).

A few of these birds have been killed at Yarmouth. We once observed a Sandpiper, which appeared to belong to this species, flying along the shore of the Stour, hovering like a bird of prey, and continually darting down close to the ooze.

4. *T. minuta* (Little Sandpiper).

We have received this bird from Yarmouth, and also killed it on Ray Island in the river Stour.

5. *T. cinerea* (Knot).

In spring the Knot visits the coasts of this part of the kingdom, on its way to the North to breed; and again makes its appearance on its return, sometimes as early as the month of August; but the principal flocks arrive later in autumn, and a

few sometimes remain throughout the winter. At these times it is found in various states of plumage. Some of the birds killed in the spring have only partially acquired the red breast ; and of those shot in autumn some have only partially lost it. This appears to be an exceedingly stupid species. We met with a flock of sixteen in September last, which, though repeatedly shot at, would not leave the spot, and were all killed. Some of them being wounded fell into the water, and swam about with great ease. A Redshank, which was shot the same day, showed an equal facility in swimming. The species was observed by Captain Parry within the arctic circle.

6. *T. Pugnax* (Ruff).

Ruffs and Reeves breed in the marshes of Norfolk ; but they are becoming scarcer every year, on account of the old birds being eagerly sought after as soon as they arrive, for the London market ; to which place also the eggs are sent, together with those of many other marsh birds. The Reeve is very tenacious of her eggs. In the summer of 1817 one was taken upon the nest by the warrener's boy at Winterton, who carried it to his master, and was ordered to set it at liberty : on the following day we found the same bird upon her eggs again.

Genus LII. TOTANUS.

1. *T. fuscus* (Spotted Snipe).

A bird of this species, in the autumn plumage, was killed at Yarmouth, and preserved by Mr. Youell. Another, shot near Ipswich, in its summer dress, is now in the British Museum. Mr. Wigg of Yarmouth has also seen two other specimens which were shot near that town.

The use of the small web between the outer and middle toes of this and of several other species of waders appears to be, to  
give

give the bird a surer footing when wading upon soft mud. In consequence of this structure, the inner toes of each foot must necessarily sink deeper than the outer ones, and secure the bird from all danger of falling over on either side.

2. *T. Calidris* (Redshank, Red-legs).

A specimen of this bird, examined April 28th, varied from the descriptions given by Linnæus and Montagu. The base of the lower mandible only was red; the coverts of the primaries were purplish on their outer webs, and dusky black on their inner. Montagu says "the secondaries are tipped with white:" in the above specimen they were more than half white.

The Redshank is found in considerable numbers in many of the marshes both of Norfolk and Suffolk during the breeding season. It is indeed more common than any other kind of wader. To sportsmen it is very troublesome, flying around them and uttering an incessant shrill whistle, which alarms all the birds near the spot. A few Redshanks are sometimes met with during the winter season, but the greater part of them migrate. This species is found solitary and also in flocks on the ooze of the river Stour. The ordinary posture of the young Redshank is with the head sunk back between the shoulders, the back of the neck being void of feathers, like that of the Bittern.

3. *T. Ochropus* (Green Sandpiper).

We cannot positively affirm that this species breeds here, though it seems probable that it sometimes does so, as five Green Sandpipers were constantly found one summer near the old decoy at Levington in Suffolk. It is seen in these counties throughout the winter.

4. *T. Hypoleucos* (Common Sandpiper, Summer Snipe).

The Common Snipe comes up the river Gipping in Suffolk in  
the

the spring, and stays till the end of autumn. At night it makes a remarkably loud piping noise. Some years since, we saw a Sandpiper flying across a river attacked by a Hawk, when it instantly dived, and remained under water until its enemy disappeared. It then emerged, and joined its companions. This bird when flushed, sometimes utters a note resembling as nearly as possible that of the Kingfisher. It has a habit of jirking its tail up and down as it runs.

5. *T. Glottis* (Greenshank).

Genus LIII. LIMOSA.

1. *L. Melanura* (Red Godwit).

We have named this bird (the Red Godwit of English authors) after Temminck, because both species of British Godwits have red breasts in spring.

Some of these birds used to breed in the marshes of Norfolk, and three years since we received the egg of this species from Yarmouth. But it is doubtful whether they are to be found at present in their former haunts. The draining of the marshes, the eagerness with which eggs are sought after for market, and the keen pursuit of sportsmen, have rendered water-birds of all kinds much scarcer than they used to be formerly. There was, however, a large flock of these birds at Yarmouth in October 1819.

2. *L. rufa* (Common Godwit).

We have examined specimens of this bird killed in Norfolk in various states of plumage. Those met with in autumn have been in the dress of the Common Godwit of English authors: but when the individual was killed early in the spring, it was in a state of change between that bird and the Red-breasted Snipe of Montagu. Before it leaves this country to breed, it has  
assumed



assumed the full plumage of that bird ; and we have noticed it in the same state on its return in the beginning of August.

Genus LIV. SCOLOPAX.

1. *S. Rusticola* (Woodcock).

A Woodcock was killed in Suffolk on the 3rd of September 1818. Mr. Seaman of Ipswich had a bird of this species brought to him alive and in fine condition in the month of July 1817. And we have been informed by the Rev. G. R. Leathes, that the eggs and young of the same were taken two years in succession at Brettenham, the residence of the late G. Wynwyve, Esq.

2. *S. major* (Great Snipe).

We have examined several specimens of this bird killed in Norfolk. Its legs are of a light flesh-colour, blended with a slight tinge of green. The length of its bill is subject to great variation.

3. *S. Gallinago* (Common Snipe).

4. *S. Gallinula* (Jack Snipe).

Genus LV. RALLUS.

1. *R. aquaticus* (Water Rail).

Genus LVI. GALLINULA.

1. *G. Crex* (Crake Gallinule).

The Crake Gallinule occasionally breeds in Norfolk and Suffolk : is most common in autumn, frequenting fields of seed-clover, but is by no means abundant. One which we had alive uttered a short low inward note when alarmed or angry.

2. *G. Por-*

2. *G. Porzana* (Spotted Gallinule).

There can be no doubt that the Spotted Gallinule breeds in the marshes of Norfolk. We have seen a considerable number of its eggs at Yarmouth, which, as well as its young, were found in the neighbourhood of that place. And we are also in possession of an egg taken from a female of this species which was killed in the marshes below Norwich.

3. *G. Baillonii* (Baillon's Gallinule).

We have met with a specimen of this bird in the collection of Mr. Crickmore of Beccles, which was shot near that town. The throat, neck and belly are ash-colour; the sides and under tail-coverts barred and spotted with black and white. The back is like that of the Spotted Gallinule; but this bird is considerably smaller than that species. An extremely small Gallinule, probably of the above kind, was shot at Nacton in Suffolk many years since, and was in the possession of the late John Vernon, Esq.

4. *G. Chloropus* (Common Gallinule).

The Common Gallinule frequently roosts on trees. Two young birds of this species, which were hatched by Mr. Youell under a hen, used to take their food from the bill of their foster-mother; and it was not till they were several weeks old that they would pick their food from the ground. We have notwithstanding observed this bird in its natural state, when it had only been hatched a few days, running about upon the tops of the weeds and picking insects from them.

## Genus LVII. FULICA.

1. *F. atra* (Coot).

The Coot breeds on those large pieces of water in the marshes  
called

called "*Broads*" in Norfolk, and on some of them in considerable numbers. In autumn and winter these birds make their appearance on the rivers in vast flocks; and upon an appointed day all the boats and guns are put in requisition, and a general attack is made upon them. On the banks of the Stour the fowlers approach them, while sitting upon the ooze, by concealing themselves behind a skreen made of bushes, which is placed upon a sledge and driven before them. There is a difficulty in plucking these birds clean, it being almost impossible to get the down off by that process. The method therefore used is, to pluck off the feathers as clean as possible, then to dredge powdered resin over the bird, and to plunge it into hot water; after which the down will come off quite clean, and the bird appear perfectly white and nice.—On crossing the Stour in the month of January 1819, in a dead calm, we observed the Coots floating upon the water in a semicircle. On our approach within about 200 yards, the whole body, amounting at the least calculation to several thousands, partly rose and flapped along the surface of the water, making a tremendous rushing noise. Had there been any wind, they would have risen into the air without difficulty; but there being none, they could scarcely disentangle their feet. We killed two wounded birds: one of them afforded excellent sport, not suffering the boat to approach it without diving, and coming up oftentimes a hundred yards off: it had the action and alertness of a Dobchick. Foxes frequent the banks of the Stour very early in the morning to catch the wounded birds, which generally make to land, and of which there are sometimes great numbers. The larger kinds of Gulls often attack and devour Coots. We have observed the latter, on the approach of their enemy, rush together from all quarters, and form a close, round, compact body, appearing like bees in the act of swarming. The Gull kept hovering over their heads, and frequently

dashed within a yard or two of them. Whenever he flew to a distance the Coots dispersed, and again at his return flocked together. This scene continued as long as we stood upon the shore, which was more than half an hour. White, in his *History of Selborne*, vol. ii. p. 52, says, "Dobchicks, Moorhens, and Coots fly erect with their legs hanging down, and hardly make any dispatch." Had he seen the Coots fly on the Stour, he would not have included them in the number; for they not only fly with great celerity, but also stretch out their legs backwards like the Heron. The Coot is soon reconciled to confinement, and becomes domestic. A bird of this species, having its whole plumage white except the head and tail, was seen on the Stour last December.

#### Genus LVIII. PHALAROPUS.

1. *P. Platyrrhynchus* (Gray Phalarope).

#### Genus LIX. PODICEPS.

1. *P. cristatus* (Crested Grebe).

The Crested Grebe breeds on Fritton Decoy, and also on many of the *Broads* of Norfolk. It is said that the young when alarmed will get under the wings of the female, which immediately dives with them.

2. *P. rubricollis* (Red-necked Grebe).

We have seen a specimen of this bird in the collection of Mr. Hunt of Norwich, who informs us that he has had three others of the same kind killed in Norfolk. Mr. Wigg of Yarmouth has also had one shot in the neighbourhood of that place.

3. *P. auritus* (Eared Grebe).

We received a specimen of this bird from Yarmouth in the  
autumn

autumn of 1817. It was caught alive, and was remarkably tame, pluming itself with great composure soon after it was taken. Mr. Sabine has likewise a bird of this species, which was also sent to him from the same place.

4. *P. minor* (Little Grebe).

Genus LX. STERNA.

1. *S. Cantiaca* (Sandwich Tern).

The Sandwich Tern has been killed at Yarmouth. On the 5th of May 1820, we shot two of these birds at Walton in Essex. They had made their appearance only two days previous. The foreheads of these birds were black, and the extent of their wings 3 feet  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches. That described by Bewick, being less in breadth and having a white forehead, was probably a young bird. The legs of the Sandwich Tern are very strong; the claws crooked and strong. It has a very flapping kind of flight, and often sits on the sands at the edge of the water. It may be distinguished from the other kinds by its note, which is stronger than that of the common species. On the 24th of April last we saw two of these birds swimming in the Stour, one of which we shot.

The Common, Black, and Lesser Terns all breed on the coasts and in the marshes of Norfolk, and are plentiful in some parts. Towards the end of summer Terns congregate, and appear in large flocks upon the ooze of Breydon Water.

2. *S. Hirundo* (Common Tern).

3. *S. nigra* (Black Tern).

4. *S. minuta* (Lesser Tern).

## Genus LXI. LARUS.

1. *L. marinus* (Great Black-backed Gull).
2. *L. argentatus* (Herring Gull).
3. *L. fuscus* (Less Black-backed Gull).
4. *L. canus* (Common Gull, Sea Pie, Sea Cob).
5. *L. tridactylus* (Kittiwake).
6. *L. ridibundus* (Brown-headed Gull, Puit).

Near the centre of the county of Norfolk, at the distance of about twenty-five miles from the sea, and two from Hingham, is a large piece of water called Scoulton Mere. In the middle of this mere there is a boggy island of seventy acres extent covered with reeds, and on which there are some birch- and willow-trees. There is no river communicating between the mere and the sea. This mere has from time immemorial been a favourite breeding spot of the Brown-headed Gull. These birds begin to make their appearance at Scoulton about the middle of February; and by the end of the first week in March the great body of them have always arrived. They spread themselves over the neighbouring country to the distance of several miles in search of food, following the plough as regularly as Rooks; and from the great quantity of worms and grubs which they devour, they render essential service to the farmer. If the spring is mild, the Gulls begin to lay about the middle of April; but the month of May is the time at which the eggs are found in the greatest abundance. At this season a man and three boys find constant employment in collecting them, and they have sometimes gathered upwards of a thousand in a day. These eggs are sold on  
the



the spot at the rate of fourpence a score, and are regularly sent in considerable quantities to the markets at Norwich and Lynn. They are eaten cold, like Lapwing's eggs, and also used for culinary purposes; but they are rather of an inferior quality, and somewhat like Duck's eggs in flavour. The person who sells these eggs gives fifteen pounds a year for the privilege of collecting them.

This species of Gull never lays more than three eggs the first time; but if these are taken, it will lay again. We found many of the old birds sitting in the middle of June; most of these had only one egg in the nest, but a few of them had two. Their nests are made of the tops of reeds and sedge, and are very flat at the top. The eggs vary so much in size, shape, and colour, that a person not well acquainted with them would suppose some of them to belong to a different species of bird. Some are thickly covered with dusky spots, and others are of a light-blue colour without any spots at all. The young birds leave the nest as soon as hatched, and take to the water. When they can fly well the old ones depart with them, and disperse themselves on the sea-coast, where they are found during the autumn and winter. By the middle of July they all leave Scoulton, and are not seen there again till the following spring. We were a little surprised at seeing some of these Gulls alight and sit upon some low bushy willows which grow on the island. No other than the Brown-headed Gull breeds at the above mere. A few of that kind also breed in many of the marshes contiguous to the sea-coast of Norfolk.

Genus LXII. LESTRIS.

1. *L. pomarinus* (Pomarine Gull).

A specimen of this Gull killed near Ipswich is in the collection of Mr. Seaman.

2. *L. pa-*

2. *L. parasiticus* (Arctic Gull).

We are informed by Joseph Sabine, Esq. that he procured a young Arctic Gull, killed on a rabbit-warren near Brandon the beginning of October 1819. In the same month another bird of this species was shot at Yarmouth.

## Genus LXIII. PROCELLARIA.

1. *P. pelagica* (Stormy Petrel).

This kind of Petrel sometimes makes its appearance on the coasts, and has been shot from the beach at Yarmouth. The oil issued from the nostrils of one which we killed on the Stour, May 29th, 1820. The forepart of the head of this bird is curiously peaked, which does not seem to be noticed by any author. It is extremely buoyant when floating on the water.

## Genus LXIV. ANAS.

1. *Anser ferus* (Gray-lag Goose).2. *A. Segetum* (Bean Goose).

The Bean Goose is occasionally met with in this part of the island, particularly about Yarmouth. It is said to be more common than the Gray-lag Goose.

3. *A. albifrons* (White-fronted Goose).4. *A. leucopsis* (Bernacle Goose).5. *A. Bernicla* (Brent Goose).

During the winter the Brent Goose is not uncommon. The cry of a flock of these birds very much resembles the noise of a pack

pack of hounds, and we have twice been deceived by it. It is among the birds observed by Captain Parry within the arctic circle.

6. *A. ruficollis* (Red-breasted Goose).

Mr. Wigg had a specimen of this rare bird, which was killed at Halvergate in Norfolk in the year 1805. He says its flesh was well flavoured.

7. *A. Cygnus* (Whistling Swan).

In severe winters these birds are not unfrequently to be met with at Yarmouth and the adjacent parts. Many of them were killed in the hard weather of 1819.

8. *A. Olor* (Tame Swan).

9. *A. Tadorna* (Shieldrake).

The Shieldrake breeds in the rabbit-burrows formed in the sand-hills upon the coast of Norfolk. Its nest is discovered by the print of its feet on the sand, and therefore most easily found in calm weather; for in windy weather the driving sand soon obliterates the impression. The old bird is sometimes taken by a snare set at the mouth of the burrow. The eggs are often hatched under domestic hens, and the birds kept as an ornament in ponds.

10. *A. Boschas* (Wild Duck).

The Common Wild Duck constantly breeds in our marshes. It is very difficult for those who live on the borders of the marshes to prevent their tame Ducks from assuming the habits of the wild ones by mixing with them, and eventually leaving  
the

the premises on which they were bred. This circumstance accounts for their being frequently taken in the decoys, or shot as wild-fowl.

11. *A. strepera* (Gadwall, Heart-Duck, Summer Duck).

In this part of the kingdom the Gadwall is not common. We have seen a few which were killed in Norfolk.

12. *A. acuta* (Pintail Duck).

This kind of Duck is not uncommon, and it is esteemed for the table.

13. *A. Penelope* (Widgeon, Smee, Easterling).

14. *A. clypeata* (Shoveler, Spoon-bill, Bach).

The Shoveler remains all the year in Norfolk. Mr. Youell has already stated to the Society the fact of its breeding in that county. We have twice met with its nest in Winterton marshes. It was placed in a tuft of grass, where the ground was quite dry, and made of fine grass. After the female begins to sit, she covers her eggs with down plucked from her body. The eggs are of a cream-colour, and their usual number eight or nine. In one instance as many as thirteen were discovered in a nest. In the spring of 1818 the warrener at Winterton found several nests belonging to this species, containing in the whole fifty-six eggs. The weight of the egg is one ounce two scruples.

15. *A. Querquedula* (Garganey, Crick).

It seems probable that the Garganey sometimes breeds in Norfolk, as the Rev. Henry Tilney of Hockwold had a pair brought to him on the 6th of May 1817, in the female of which  
was

was a perfect egg. And Mr. Youell has received a specimen of this Duck killed near Yarmouth on the 2nd of June 1820.

16. *A. Crecca* (Teal).

A few Teal breed in Norfolk. In the summer of 1817 Mr. Youell purchased three live young ones of a person who took them from a nest near Reedham, and reared them by a common Duck. Very small young ones have also been observed in company with their parents upon Ranworth *Broad* by Mr. Kerison of that place ; and they also breed on Scoulton Mere.

17. *A. mollissima* (Eider Duck).

An old male Eider Duck in full plumage was shot at Wells in the month of January 1820. There were two others in company with it at the time. In the stomach of this bird there was a considerable quantity of *Echini* and Crabs' claws ; in another was found a *Buccinum reticulatum* nearly an inch in length. A female of the same species was killed in the river Orwell the first week in November 1818.

18. *A. fusca* (Velvet Duck).

This is a rare species, but it has been sometimes killed both in Norfolk and Suffolk.

19. *A. nigra* (Scoter).

20. *A. glacialis* (Long-tailed Duck).

In severe winters these Ducks visit our shores and rivers ; and they have been taken in the decoy at Herringfleet. In the winter of 1819-20 they were unusually numerous, particularly at Yarmouth, and many of them were killed. Some of these had

the two middle feathers of the tail elongated, but in most of them these two feathers did not exceed the others in length.

21. *A. Marila* (Scaup Duck, Gray-back).

22. *A. ferina* (Pochard).

This species and also the Shoveler breed at Scoulton Mere.

23. *A. Clangula* (Golden-eye Duck, Rattle-wing, Rattler).

Wilson, in his *American Ornithology*, remarks, that the Canvass-back Ducks, "even when feeding and diving in small parties, do not all go down at one time, but some are still left above on the look-out." We have observed that the practice of the Golden-eye Duck is exactly similar to that of the Canvass-back Duck in this respect.

24. *A. Fuligula* (Tufted Duck).

25. *A. leucophthalmos* (Castaneous Duck).

Mr. Wigg has had two specimens of the Castaneous Duck, both killed at different times in the neighbourhood of Yarmouth. One of them was preserved by Mr. Youell; the flavour of the other was said to have been excellent. We have also been informed that the Rev. George Glover had a bird of this species, which was shot in Norfolk a few years since.

#### Genus LXV. MERGUS.

1. *M. Merganser* (Goosander, Sawyer).

We saw a very beautiful specimen of the male Goosander, the under parts of which were of a fine buff-colour, at Mr. Crickmore's of Beccles. It was killed near Lowestoffe. The young male of this species has been killed in Norfolk: it was in the  
plumage